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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 037094
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INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 /017 R

DRAFTED BY COMM/NOAA/S:DSJOHNSON
APPROVED BY OES/APT/SA:JGDARDIS
COMM/NOAA/IA:NEJOHNSON
ARA/AND:TSONANDRES
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R 172242Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, TSPA

SUBJECT: SATELLITE-DERIVED METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION

REFERENCE: CARACAS 1162

1. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE SERVICE (NESS) OF NOAA WILL MAIL YOU DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE DIFFERENT DIRECT BROADCASTS AVAILABLE FROM U.S. METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITES, GENERAL DESCRIPTIONS OF EQUIPMENT REQUIRED FOR RECEIVING AND PROCESSING THE SIGNALS, APPROXIMATE COSTS AND POTENTIAL U.S. COMMERCIAL SOURCES. FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF SUMMARY.

2. IMAGE SOURCES FROM POLAR ORBIT SATELLITES CALLED "NOAA" ARE AUTOMATIC PICTURE TRANSMISSION (APT) HAVING RESOLUTION OF ABOUT 4 KM FOR VISIBLE CHANNEL AND 7 KM FOR INFRARED, AND HIGH RESOLUTION PICTURE TRANSMISSION (HRPT) WITH A RESOLUTION OF ONE KM FOR BOTH VISIBLE AND
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INFRARED CHANNELS. AT PRESENT TIME COVERAGE OBTAINED TWICE PER DAY AT ABOUT 0800 AND 2000 LOCAL TIME. BEGINNING END OF 1978 COVERAGE ALSO WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ABOUT 0300 AND 1500 LOCAL TIME. APPROXIMATE COST OF EQUIPMENT FOR RECEPTION AND DISPLAY IS 25,000 TO 50,000 U.S. DOLLARS FOR APT SIGNALS AND 200,000 TO

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400,000 U.S. DOLLARS FOR HRPT SIGNALS. COST VARIATION LARGELY DEPENDENT ON FLEXIBILITY, CONVENIENCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE EQUIPMENT, AND ON THE QUALITY OF THE IMAGES PRODUCED.

3. IMAGES ALSO ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE GEOSTATIONARY OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE (GOES) LOCATED OVER THE EQUATOR AT 75 DEGREES WEST LONGITUDE. IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE USUALLY EVERY 30 MINUTES 24 HOURS A DAY WITH A RESOLUTION OF 7 KM IN THE INFRARED AND 1 KM IN THE VISIBLE, THE LATTER DURING DAYLIGHT ONLY. THE GOES ALSO PROVIDES A SERVICE KNOWN AS "WEFAX" IN WHICH SELECTED PICTURES ARE RELAYED FROM EITHER THE GOES OR THE NOAA POLAR ORBIT SATELLITES IN REDUCED RESOLUTION SUITABLE FOR RECEPTION AND DISPLAY ON APT EQUIPMENT. AN ADAPTER, NAMELY A FIXED ANTENNA AND DOWN-CONVERTER, IS REQUIRED COSTING ABOUT 3,000 TO 5,000 U.S. DOLLARS. EQUIPMENT FOR THE DIRECT RECEPTION OF THE GOES IMAGES WILL COST APPROXIMATELY 300,000 TO 400,000 U.S. DOLLARS. HOWEVER, A SINGLE SET OF EQUIPMENT SUITABLE FOR THE RECEPTION AND USE OF BOTH GOES AND HRPT IMAGES CAN BE OBTAINED FOR VERY LITTLE MORE COST THAN THAT QUOTED ABOVE FOR EQUIPMENT TO RECEIVE AND DISPLAY EITHER ONE ALONE.

4. OTHER DIRECT BROADCAST SIGNALS CONTAIN COMPLEX DIGITAL INFORMATION FROM WHICH SUCH PARAMETERS AS ATMOSPHERIC TEMPERATURES CAN BE DERIVED. HOWEVER, COMPLEX COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE ARE NEEDED FOR UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PURPOSE. THIS PROCESSING NOW IS DONE ROUTINELY IN WASHINGTON AND MADE AVAILABLE TO OTHER COUNTRIES VIA THE GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (GTS) OF THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION. THE VENEZUELAN SERVICIO DE METEOROLOGICA AT MARACAY IS CONNECTED TO THE GTS VIA BRASILIA.

5. FYI FIVE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT AND UNIVERSITY HYDROLOGISTS NOW ARE IN THE UNITED STATES TO LEARN ABOUT THE RECEPTION AND USE OF THESE DATA IN VENEZUELA. ALSO, A NESS EMPLOYEE, MR. ROBERT POPHAM, WHILE ON ANNUAL LEAVE RECENTLY VISITED TRANARG IN VENEZUELA AND BRIEFED THEM ON THESE DIRECT BROADCAST SERVICES WHICH MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO AVIATION AND AERIAL MAPPING ACTIVITIES.

6. ALL OF THESE DIRECT BROADCASTS ARE IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. THEREFORE, THEY CAN BE RECEIVED AND USED BY ANYONE WITHOUT THE EXPRESS PERMISSION OF OR PAYMENT TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: METEOROLOGICAL DATA, SATELLITES, METEOROLOGICAL INSTRUMENTS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 17-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: DSJOHNSON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CARACAS 1162
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3291536
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SATELLITE-DERIVED METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION
TAGS: ETEL, TSPA
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Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/378d17c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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